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Chapter 1 – Roster of Post Officers

Commander – Rene Sanchez



1st Vice – David Witucki (*Past Post Commander*)



Adjutant – Jesse Martinez



Finance Officer – Wendell F. Denney



Chaplain – Mike Phillips



Judge Advocate – Phillip T. Contella (22nd District Commander)



Historian – Rene Sanchez

(pictured above)

Sergeant at Arms – Nickolas Hughes



Assistant Sergeant at Arms – Casey Coyne



Executive Committee Man # 2 – Earl McLearen



Installation Ceremony



District Commander Jim McGuire conducting Installation Ceremony

Chapter 2 – Roster of Chairpersons

Chairperson Board of Trustees – Earl McLearen

Trustees

Rickie L. Smith
Jesse Martinez
Phillip T. Contella

Chairperson Baseball – Jesse Martinez

Chairperson Children and Youth – Ed Horton

Chairperson Finance Committee – Wendell Denney

Finance Committee Members

Eliu Rojas
Jesse Martinez
Rene Sanchez



2023-2024 Riders Officers

Position	Name
“Acting” Chairman	Phillip T. Contella
Vice Chairman	Phillip T. Contella
Secretary	Vie Denney
Treasurer	Wendell F. Denney
Chaplain	Susie Tristan
Sergeant at Arms	VACANT
Historian	Sheri Contella
Road Captain	Earl McLearen

Chapter 3 – One-Year Post History

Post Everlasting



Eternal Tribute

Honoring Our Heroes

Name	Post Everlasting Date	Branch	Obituary
Martinez, Gilberto R	1/14/2024	USA	https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/weslaco-tx/gilberto-martinez-11625902
McElroy, Stephen	5/3/2024	USAF	https://www.crowderfuneralhome.com/obituaries/stephen-bruce-mcelroy/
Thiel, Alphonse	5/18/2024	USN	https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/pasadena-tx/alphonse-thiel-11833367
Denney, John	6/5/2024	USN	https://www.gracefuneralhomehudson.com/obituaries/John-Denney-5/#!/TributeWall
Frazier, Homer	7/9/2024	USA	https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/webster-tx/homer-frazier-11895369
Charles, Joseph	9/5/2024	USA	https://www.rossmortuaryinc.com/obituary/joseph-charles
Provost, Roy	12/20/2024	USA	https://www.norrisdburkleyprofessionalservices.com/obituaries/roy-provost/#!/TributeWall
Bowen, Kenneth	1/9/2025	USAF	https://beresfordfunerals.com/obituary/kenneth-herschel-bowen
William Michael Clay	3/22/2025	USN	

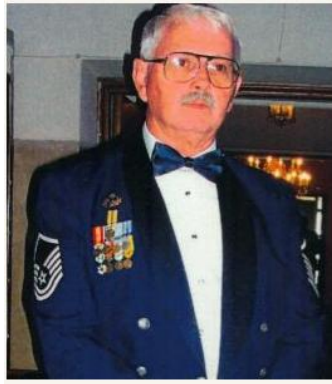
Gilberto R. Martinez

AUGUST 21, 1932 - JANUARY 14, 2024



03
MAY

STEPHEN BRUCE MCELRO
Posted by Crowder Funeral Home



Alphonse Michael Thiel

MAY 18, 1939 - MAY 18, 2024



**John Robert
Denney**

JAN 16, 1947 - JUN 5, 2024

Homer Mahlon Frazier Jr.

FEBRUARY 18, 1925 - JULY 9, 2024



Joseph Charles



Roy Provost



Kenneth Bowen



Michael Clay

Texas Boys State



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 17, 2024 - **Local Student Graduates from Texas Boys State**

AUSTIN, Tex. – The American Legion, Department of Texas, today announced that **Robert Nikolas Hein**, homeschool student from Friendswood, TX has graduated from the American Legion Texas Boys State. R. Nikolas represented American Legion Post 490 of Houston.

Begun in 1935, Boys State is a unique program that educates future leaders about government, civics, and patriotism in a “learn by doing” environment. Each delegate has just finished his junior year of high school and was hand-picked by teachers, counselors, and local American Legion posts throughout Texas to attend this one-week seminar...

Letter from Robert Nikolas Hein American Legion Texas Boys State 2024

Experience Spending a week with about one thousand 16- and 17-year-old statesmen was a good learning experience. Within one day we learned how government is structured, and in five days we worked together learning about and creating our own government. We quickly built a foundation of community as we learned, and this expanded beyond learning to include bonding of many into friendships and creating enjoyable and memorable moments. The diverse group of statesmen with different backgrounds united and learned to work together as a team.

The group was divided into two parties of Nationalists or Federalists and organized into 24 bipartisan cities. The statesmen were encouraged to run for an elected or appointed office. I ran for Associate Justice of the Court of Criminal Judges. While I was not elected, the process was a good experience. One takeaway I observed during the election process for each candidate is that sometimes decision making was based on emotion instead of rationale and logic. I learned that the checks and balances of government seek to ensure the governing body is fair and just, while it is apparent that keeping things fair and just can be challenging. It was interesting to learn about the court of criminal appeals, how the court works, what challenges the court faces, and to examine examples of cases. At one point, a supreme judge of the court of criminal appeals and a Texas representative spoke to all of us at the program. One day we had the opportunity to march to the capital. It was encouraging as by this time the statesmen had formed community. We enjoyed touring the capital and viewing the architectural elements.

The daily schedules provided a framework to keep a sense of order but proved challenging with the number of activities. As would be expected, though, leaving the young men to their own devices proved entertaining. Supervision by the legionnaires was critical in ensuring order and in guiding the statesmen while allowing them to independently work. A long day started early with a quick breakfast, attending a town meeting, a quick lunch, more meetings, dinner, and late-night participation in sports or trivia. After the long day, the next challenge was to finally get to shower. We got little sleep, though, and were back at the busy schedule early the next morning. We had to learn time management through this schedule. The Texas Boys State program required fortitude to participate in the very long and organized days.

*I enjoyed attending American Legion Texas Boys State. **Thank you for sponsoring me for this opportunity.** I believe it is a good program and teaches more than just how a government works and what our civic duty really is, in that it teaches teamwork, how to discuss opposing views, and how to make good decisions. I personally grew with this experience learning time management and better teamwork. The sense of community fostered learning outside of the box and decision making. I learned a lot about our government and strengthened my belief in our country.*

South Houston American Legion Post 490 Back to School Program

South Houston American Legion Post 490 launched its Annual Back to School Program. This program, in line with the American Legion's Children and Youth Pillar, has three main objectives: strengthen the family unit, support organizations that help children in need, and provide hope and opportunity for young people facing difficult challenges.

Lisa Bodden (Auxiliary Unit 490) led this year's program. Ms. Bodden and Ed Horton (Post 490 Children and Youth Chair) have successfully coordinated this initiative for several years.



Left: Lisa Bodden and young lady Right: Ed Horton



Ed Horton, Estella Thornhill, Lisa Bodden, Vie Denney, Wendell Denney with son and grandkids

The Auxiliary Ladies, the Legionnaires, and their families, including children and grandchildren, had an enjoyable - as well as gratifying - time filling backpacks with school supplies.



Left: Siomara Sanchez, Lisa Bodden, Tommie Martinez

Right: Diana Aguilar, Estella Thornhill, Joana Mata

There were lists for each school grade and as you can see folks had to focus and ensure they filled backpacks correctly.



Manuel Escobedo and Loretta

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Collins



Left: Young Man Volunteer **Right:** Vie Denney and grandson



Amazing Volunteers

It was an outstanding team effort and everyone, including a 3-year-old, contributed. In fact, Austin (8), one of the grandkids, said he would love to do it again next year.



Vie and Wendell Denney with son and grandkids

Post 490 would like to express our gratitude to the following organizations. We thank them for providing the American Legion Post 490 Family the opportunity to assist them in making a meaningful impact on our local communities.

Sarah's House (Emergency Shelter - Pasadena) – Post 490 cannot thank this wonderful organization enough! Thank you for welcoming our Auxiliary President on a Sunday and for the photo opportunity.



Diana Aguilar at Sarah's House

Pasadena Independent School District – Post 490 thanks the district for allowing us to collaborate with your schools.

Jessup Elementary School – Ms. Lisa Bemus (Counselor) and the school staff were so welcoming and kind. Post 490 genuinely appreciates them allowing us to take a picture in such a beautiful, decorated hallway.



Rene and Siomara with Lisa Bemus

Fred Roberts Middle School – Mr. Mike Evans (Counselor) Thank you for the welcoming committee and for this great photo opportunity with such an amazing background.



Sheri and Terry Contella, Vie and Wendell Denney with Fred Roberts Middle School staff and students

Jackson Intermediate School – Post 490 thanks your staff for the opportunity to assist and take this lovely photo.



Ed Horton with Jackson Intermediate Staff

Pasadena High School – Ms. Mary Ames (Counselor) – thank you for the kind words and the opportunity to assist, plus the excellent photo opportunity.



Tommie and Jesse Martinez with Mary Ames

Special thanks and recognition to American Legion Post 521 for allowing Post 490 to use their facility for this event as well as others! We deeply appreciate it!



Vie and Wendell Denney, Lisa Bodden, Estella and Owen Thornhill, Siomara and Rene Sanchez, Tommie, and Jesse Martinez

Pursuit of Honor, Courage, and Commitment

South Houston American Legion Post 490 Family Members traveled to Hollywood Beach Florida to compete in the **Pursuit of Honor, Courage, and Commitment 5k Run** at Charnow Park in Hollywood Beach Florida on October 12, 2024.

The Fundraiser benefitted the Fort Lauderdale Sea Cadets Youth Development Program and the Wounded Warrior Project.

The 12th Annual Pursuit of Honor, Courage and Commitment event was a remarkable success with well over three hundred participants. Race information and results at <https://honor5K.org>.

South Houston American Legion Post 490 represented District 22nd, the 2nd Division and the Department of Texas well.

- Auxiliary Unit 490 - **Siomara Sanchez** placed ninth in her age group.
- Post 490 Legionnaire - **Guillermo Sanchez** (United State Marine Corps Veteran) - awarded the bronze medal (third place) in his age group (25-29)
- Post 490 Commander - **Rene Sanchez** (United States Army Veteran) - awarded the bronze medal (third place) in his age group (70-74)



Guillermo, Siomara and Rene

South Houston American Legion Post 490 Airshow Viewing Event

On October 26th and 27th, American Legion Post 490 - representing District 22, Division 2, and the Department of Texas - hosted its annual Airshow Viewing Event. The event was a momentous success, drawing a thousand spectators from the local communities. The attendees had a breathtaking view of the *Commemorative Air Force (CAF) Wings over Houston Airshow* as Post 490 is located next to Ellington Airport.

Post 490 extended an invitation to the **Veterans Administration (VA)** Houston. We applaud and praise the VA Staff for transporting forty Veterans to enjoy the festivities. Post 490 volunteers treated our fellow veterans with delicious food, beverages, and accommodation so they could enjoy the spectacular displays.



Veterans from VA Hospital

The planes (from WWII warbirds to the Blue Angels) performed incredible maneuvers, swooping down, skirting tree lines, sputtering, and climbing high above the spectators. At times, the aircraft's insignias were in view. The Blue Angels closed the show with awe-inspiring aerial exploits. **(Special thanks to Legionnaire Rick Smith for the excellent photos.)**

Rick Smith, Robin Lott and Diana Aguilar





Blue Angels and other amazing aircraft

Airshow Committee – Chaired by Wendell Denney – The Committee took on this challenge on short notice and during a time of uncertainty. **Folks like these genuinely change the world.** Their passion and energy are unparalleled, and the American Legion respects that immensely.



Vie Denney and Siomara Sanchez attending guests



Top Picture - Casey Coyne and wife, Wendell Denney Bottom Picture – Tommie and Jesse Martinez with son

Volunteers – the Legionnaires, Auxiliary, Riders, Sons and especially the "Lite Bunch"

A heartfelt gratitude for the incredible time and effort they put into making the Airshow Event a success. **Their commitment and generosity are invaluable.** The proceeds from the fundraiser will go toward the Building Construction. More importantly, they raised awareness about the American Legion's mission and the challenges faced by veterans.



Top left - Earl McLearen and grandson Top Right - Terry Contella, Earl and Rider Bottom Left Jo Anna Mata, Sheri Contella and Robin Bottom Right Felicia, Ruby, Siomara and Vie



Top Left Darrell Falles, Mike Frank Top Right - Sheri and Diana Middle - Casey, Owen Thornhill, Wendell Bottom John Evans



Top- Manuel Escobedo, Loretta Balboa, Nick Hughes, Felicia, Ruby, Diona **Bottom** - Rene Sanchez

Lite Bunch Team - The local community had access to Barbeque plates (for a small fee) cooked by this renowned cooking team. They came in a day early with all their gear, worked extremely long hours and produced such exquisite cuisine. They volunteered their time and effort for the Good of the Legion and our Veterans. **A rare - as well as extraordinary - team that deserves recognition for such a gracious deed.**



Lite Bunch Team

Special thanks to the HEB for sponsoring the event and to DJ A-ROD for keeping us entertained with great music.

Local Communities - Our sincere gratitude for their participation. Their presence contributed immeasurably to the success, and Post 490 is forever grateful. We were thrilled to have you. Post 490 gave away hundreds of flags (10 flags to each family) creating a very patriotic backdrop as evident in the photos.





Pictures of Local Community Attendees



Local Community attendees



Pictures of Local Community Attendees



Pictures of Local Community Attendees

Finally, Special Recognition to District 22nd Commander Terry Contella, Auxiliary President Diana Aguilar, S.A.L. Commander David Boriack, Riders Chairman Contella and all their **Officers** for their support in this endeavor!!

South Houston Post 490 Veteran Day's Community Activities

November 7th – Friendswood Senior Center Veterans Day

In attendance were Mr. Mike Foreman, City of Friendswood Mayor, Mrs. Kim Bonnen, Texas State Representative, and Daniel Lawless, District Director of Congressman Randy Weber Office. The Clear Brook High School Jr. ROTC were exceptional.

Special recognition to Auxiliary Unit 490's Treasurer Sheri Contella for a tremendous job in decorating the venue with Veterans' Memorabilia. Auxiliary Unit 490 was one of the sponsors of the event.

VFW 5619 Commander Terry Contella spoke on the significance of each displayed feature on the POW/MIA table - nothing more poignant than witnessing the empty chair.

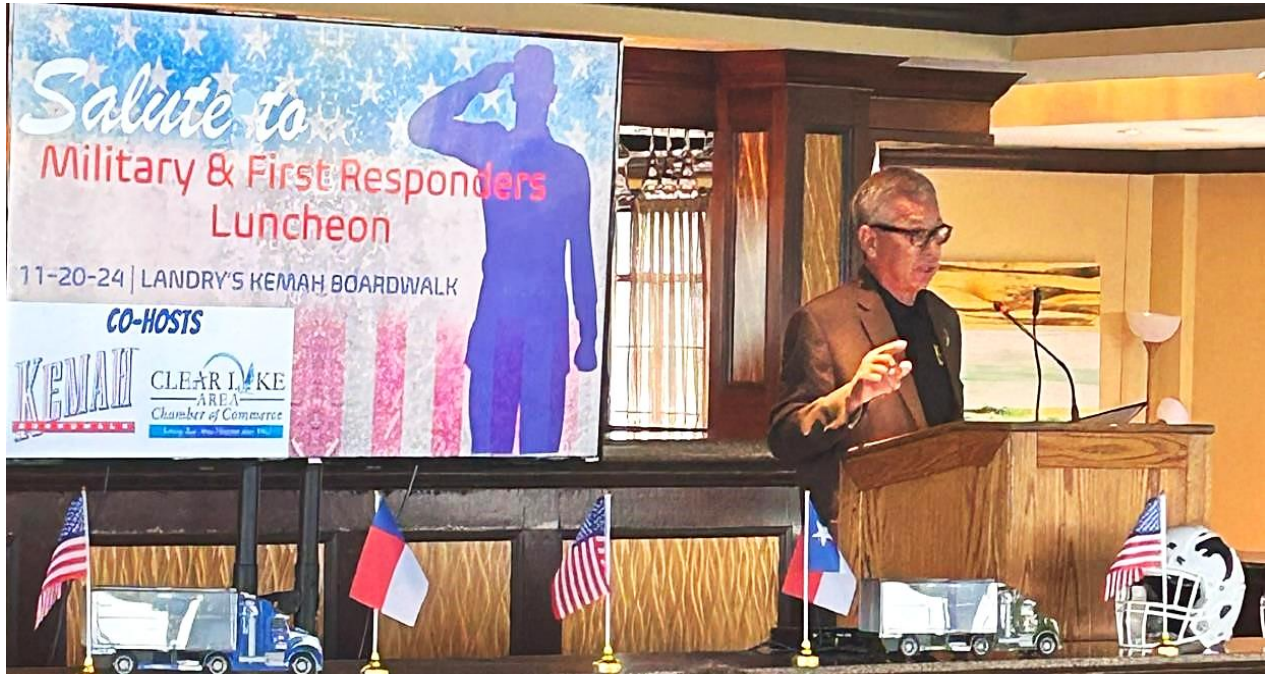
Post 490 Commander Rene Sanchez spoke at the event. [Link to Commander's Speech.](#)



Top Picture - Rene and Siomara Sanchez, Terry and Sheri Contella, Wendell Denney **Bottom Left** - Rene Sanchez **Bottom Right** JROTC Cadets with Rene and Terry

November 8th - Landry's on Kemah Boardwalk

Post 490 members attended the Salute to Military and First Responders Luncheon at Landry's on Kemah Boardwalk. Special recognition goes to Past Commander Elio Rojas. There were military vehicles and aircraft in the parking lot for the visitors to enjoy.



Top Picture - Elio Rojas Bottom Pictures - Rene Sanchez

November 8th – Veterans Memorial Stadium

American Legion Posts 490 and 554 Riders had the privilege to ride on to Veteran Memorial Stadium before the football game between Clear Lake and Clear Falls High Schools.

The Friday night lights were shining brightly as three parachuters descended with two football helmets. The Superintendent of Schools presented those helmets to two WWII veterans - 101 and 102 years old.



Top Pictures - Post 554 Riders and Post 490 Riders (Earl, Terry, Wendell) Bottom Left - Parachutist carrying football helmets Bottom Right - WWII Veterans along with Parachutists

November 9 – Boardwalk Fantasea Cruise for Veterans

The Sailing Angels Foundation (<https://sailingangels.org/>) graciously hosted veterans on their brunch cruise. Special thanks to Past Commander Eliu Rojas.



Rene and Siomara

November 11 – Clear Lake High School’s Veterans Day

Post 490 attended another outstanding event. The school’s Jr. ROTC performed as well as their Band. The school introduced each veteran with a short bio of their military career. Mr. Eliu Rojas introduced Post 490 Commander who presented a donation to the Clear Lake Jr. ROTC program. The Veterans had a delicious lunch in a beautifully decorated room.



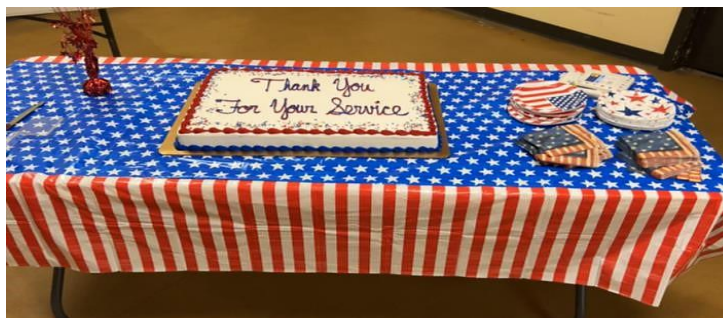
Rene, student and JROTC Commander



Top Right - Elui **Top Left** - Rene **Bottom Left** Jesse Martinez, Elui, Rene, Casey and Dignitaries **Bottom Right** - Siomara, Elui, Casey, Jesse and Rene

November 11 - Posts 521 and 490 Veterans Day

Post 490 would like to thank Post 521 Commander Harvey for the use of the facility to honor our veterans. Special recognition to the Auxiliary Unit Post 490 for their time and efforts on an excellent meal plus an amazing, decorated hall. Special thanks to HEB and Walmart for sponsoring the event. The Posts conducted a couple of successful fundraising raffles.





Top Picture - Ruby, Tommie, Loretta, Estella, Diana, Robin, Sheri, Siomara, Vie Bottom Picture – Back Row - Rene, Walmart Representatives, Nick, Owen, Erick, Manuel, Rick, Wendell, Rolando, Post 521 Members, Robert Mullen Front Row – Earl, Robert Graves, Terry, Jesse

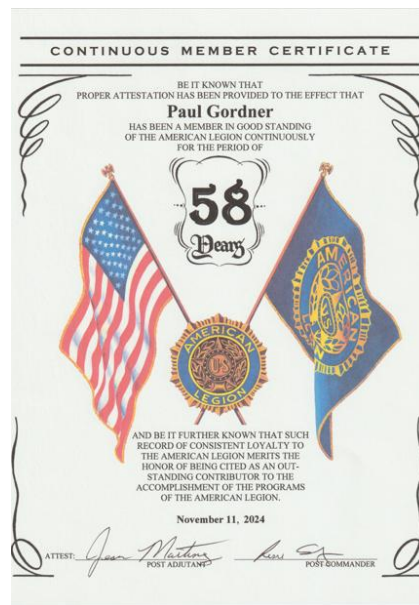
In addition, the Posts honored **Legionnaire Robert Mullen with 58 years of Continuous American Legion Membership**. We were honored to celebrate an extraordinary half century of dedicated service - an incredible milestone!!

50 Year Continuous Membership Awards – Post 490 Legionnaires



Jesse, Rene, Robert Mullen, Terry

Legionnaire	Continuous Years
Ronald Anderson	53
Harry Bennett Jr.	50
Frank Fire	52
Paul Gordner	58
Gene Guelker	52
Paul Harris	56
Lloyd Howell	53
Robert Mullen	58
Billy Palmer	53
William Simpson	52
John Wade	52



Copy of Certificates Awarded

South Houston American Legion Post 490 - 2024 Holiday Giving Campaign

Post 490's American Legion Family collaborated with the Harris County Precinct 2 Meals Program for Seniors for its 2024 Holiday Giving Campaign. The Program provides free nutritious home-delivered meals every week to one hundred and seventy senior citizens who are homebound due to illness, disability, or frailty.



Post 490 Family Members with Jerry Garcia (4th from right)



Left: Precinct Two Officer with Residents **Middle:** Tommie with Residents **Right:** Terry, Rene and View with Resident



Vie and Auxiliary Member

On the following Tuesday and Thursday, Jerry Garcia (Constable – Harris County Precinct 2) and his staff joined Post 490’s American Legion Family members to personally deliver the bags to each resident – wishing them the best during the Holidays. It was an awesome experience for those of us who were fortunate to deliver the bags - we are forever grateful to everyone who could not make it but worked tirelessly to make this happen.



It was an honor for American Legion Post 490’s Family to join Constable Garcia and his staff in this incredibly special Holiday Giving Campaign. They have done an amazing job in serving our local communities’ senior citizens through the years. We look forward to continuing to support their endeavors in the future!!



Left: Vie, Sheri, Resident, Rene and Siomara **Middle:** Residents with Vie and Earl **Right:** Diana with Resident



Precinct 2 Jerry Garcia and Officers with American Legion Post 490 Family

South Houston American Legion Post 490 – Auxiliary Christmas Dance

On December 21st, Auxiliary Unit Post 490 sponsored a Christmas Dance at Post 521. It was a way to celebrate the holidays for Post 490's American Legion Family and their friends. To have other Auxiliary Units join in the festivities (Specifically, Unit 521, Unit 472, and Unit 164) was a blessing. As always, we are grateful to Post 521 for allowing us to use their facility.

The essence of a Christmas party is to bring people together to celebrate the spirit of joy, kindness, and holiday cheer. The Auxiliary Unit 490 committee's (chaired by Jo Ann Mata) production was spectacular. They succeeded in creating lasting memories for the participants/guests through activities such as Auctions, Raffles, and others.

Best of all was the **Smooth Stone Band's** live music that inspired an abundance of dancing throughout the evening. The D.J. was also excellent.

The food was delicious, as were the beverages. Post 490 extends a special recognition to Ms. Stroud for her fantastic job of managing the crowd and making sure everyone was taken care of.

Auxiliary Unit 490's President Diana Aguilar, the Officers and members were honored by the support and enthusiasm which added to the event's success and deeply appreciate their contribution. It was a pleasure to see them there, and hope they had a wonderful time!



Smooth Stone Band with Auxiliary - Diana, Joana, Felicia, Siomara, Vie, Ms. Lott, Ms. Boriack, Susie, Tommie



Smooth Stone Band



Siomara and Rene Sanchez



Tommie and Sheri



Vie's Sister and Joana



Valerie and husband



Rick Smith and Robin Lott



District 22 Legionnaires and Auxiliary Members



Joana Mata and Rich Rodriguez



District 22 Legionnaires and Auxiliary Members



Cindy and Earl, Ms. Boriack, Ms. Frank, Felicia



Valerie, Ms. Garlowich, Vie



Missy and Wendell



David and Rick

Cheers Pub supporting Veterans and South Houston American Legion Post 490

American Legion Post 490 Family is forever grateful to CHEERS PUB for being a **hero and donating to our capital campaign!** On November 16th, Cheers Pub held its Annual Veterans Day Chili Cook-off. They donated **one hundred percent** of the profits to the American Legion Post 490 Rebuilding Fund. Special Recognition to the Auxiliary Unit 490 for coordinating the event.



Ms. Frank and Jesse

Cheers Pub ownership and their staff were tremendous. They provided the venue, entertainment (live bands and D.J.), bounce house and grill. Their time and efforts provide so much value to the communities that Post 490 serves. It will ensure that Post gets to continue the work for their new facility which helps the American Legion reach and help more lives in need.



Singer - Pearl High School Quarterback/Cornhole Tournament

Auxiliary Unit 490 did an amazing job in collecting items for the raffle, which was an enormous success, as was Cheers Pub's Chili Cookoff. The S.A.L and the Riders behind the scenes contributions were noteworthy. The Mayor of Friendswood was on hand to talk to our veterans. In addition, I45NOW news and an information platform was on hand to interview veterans.



Left: Rick and Robin - ticket sales Right: Sheri and Dario present prize to Chili Cookoff Winner



Earl cooking Right: Siomara, Owen, John and Wendell



Top: John Evans and Wendell Denney with Friendswood Mayor Bottom: I45NOW Reporter interviewing Commander



Times are tough everywhere right now, but Cheers Pub generous donation provides so much security for veterans and families in need. **Thank you- Cheers Pub!**

South Houston American Legion Post 490 Cruise

Members of the American Legion Post 490 embarked on a cruise in February 2025. This event provided an opportunity for members to network outside of their usual Legion business settings.

The experience included both formal and informal gatherings such as formal dinners, visits to beach resorts, and local community shopping and dining excursions.

We extend our appreciation to Sheri Contella for designing our T-shirts. A significant highlight of the tour was Post 490's participation on stage during the Veterans Appreciation event, with professional photographs taken by the Cruise Director's photographer.

The serene environment allowed members to relax, relieve stress, and rejuvenate before resuming work on the goals of the American Legion.



Post 490 Family on Stage during Veterans Appreciation Event



Post 490 Family Displaying their Amazing T-Shirts



Terry and Earl at Resort's Pool/Tommie and Jesse serenaded by Mariachis



Siomara and Rene in Cozumel



Tommie, Jesse, Terry, Loretta and Scooby



Jesse, Tommie, Mr. and Mrs. Callahan



Faith Federspiel (Past Commander) Ms. Garlowich (second from right) and others



Wendell and Vie

South Houston High School Navy JROTC Presentation



Terry, Nick, Earl, Casey, Wendell, Master SGT Cheeks, Ms. Miller, Mike, Jesse, David, Rene and Past 22nd District Commander Jim McGuire

South Houston American Legion Post 490 presented a Donation the South Houston High School Navy JROTC Program at it Executive Community Meeting.

- **Sarah Miller** - South Houston High School alumni and member of Jane Long Chapter of the daughters of the American Revolution.
-
- **Jamal Cheeks** - Master Sergeant, USMC, (Ret) and Senior Navy JROTC instructor at South Houston High School

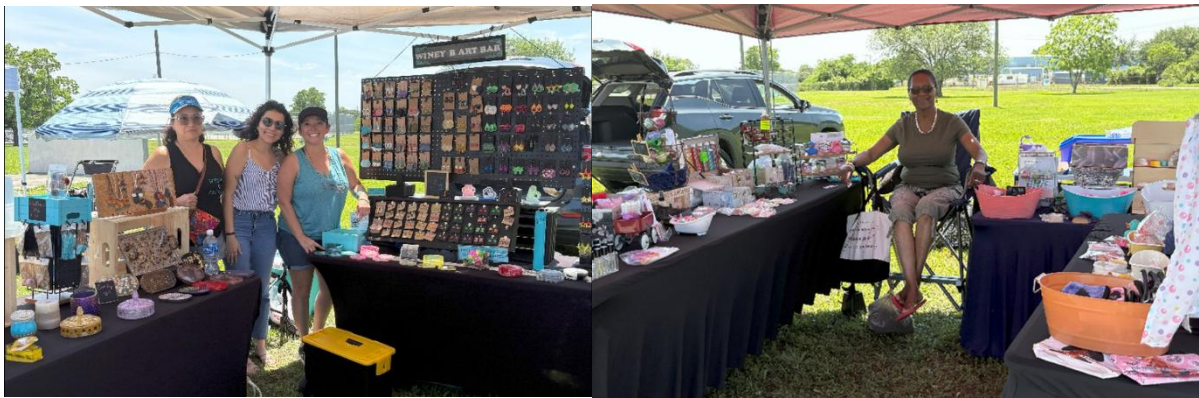
South Houston American Legion Post 490's Family Fun Day Picnic

On Saturday, May 3rd, under a sky as blue as our spirits were high, American Legion Post 490 hosted a phenomenal Family Fun Day Picnic on their beautiful grounds.



Left: Auxiliary Unit 490 members - Estella, Diana and Valerie **Right:** Rose Vendor

The day was brimming with unique handcrafted treasures and exhilarating activities that captivated both adults and children alike. Our incredible vendors truly outdid themselves, bringing an array of delightful items and experiences that left everyone in awe. We should acknowledge those who presented their cars for display. We are profoundly grateful for their dedication and creativity, which made this event unforgettable.



Pictures of Amazing Arts and Crafts Vendors

Post 490 extends its heartfelt thanks to our local community for showing up in such great numbers and infusing the day with joy and camaraderie. Your presence made a world of difference, and for that, we are immensely thankful. Congratulations to the raffle winners!!



Owen, Sheri and Valerie announce winners



Loretta with Lottery Hat

Every dollar raised will support the noble mission of the American Legion. Most importantly, it was a fantastic opportunity for Legionnaires, Auxiliary, SAL, and Riders to come together, spread the word about the American Legion, and celebrate the spirit of community.



Texas Girl State Candidates with Loretta, Diana and Valerie



Face Painting

We extend our sincere appreciation to Auxiliary Unit 490, particularly Valerie, for coordinating the vendors. We also commend Alexis for her exceptional work with the children's activities. Our gratitude goes to Madam President Diana Aguilar and distinguished auxiliary members (Vie, Siomara, Sheri, Estela, Tommy, and others) for their outstanding efforts.



Sack Race Contestants led by Alexis

Additionally, we acknowledge the significant contributions of the Legionnaires (Wendell, Terry, Scuby, Earl, Owen and others) whose efforts were truly commendable.



Scobby, Owen, Estella, Tommie and guests

Thank you, vendors, guests, and everyone who contributed to making this day a spectacular success. **We look forward to seeing you all again next year!**



Terry and Earl cooking

22nd District Convention



Siomara Jo Ann, Robin and Vie

Be the One Training participants.

2nd Division Convention Donation



Dear Dora Blue,

On behalf of South Houston Post 490's American Legion Family, local veterans, and their families, we extend our heartfelt gratitude for your generous donation to our Post's reconstruction project. Your remarkable gesture at the 2nd Division Texas American Legion Convention was truly inspiring and will have a lasting impact on our community.

Your support not only aids in rebuilding our facility but also uplifts the spirits of those who have selflessly served our nation. Your kindness exemplifies the values of camaraderie and dedication that bind us together.

Please let us know if there is any way we can support you and your Post in the future.

Sincerely,

Rene Sanchez
Commander
American Legion Post 490
832-933-7395



Event Flyers by Post 490's Amazing Marketing Personnel

Amazing Flyer by 490's Marketing Personnel illustrates several 2024-2025 events. We had to display their outstanding work!!



AMERICAN LEGION
Post 490

11702 Old Galveston Rd
Across from Ellington Field

October 26 - 27

Bring the Family & support your local veterans

You may bring your own
Chairs, Blankets, Snacks, Ice Chests, Toys for the Kids



All proceeds will go to the Post Rebuilding Fund.

Post 521

Post 490

HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

VETERANS DAY

FREE MEAL TO ALL

November 11, 2024

5:00 – 7:00 pm
2221 Preston Ave
Pasadena, TX 77503

BBQ Brisket Baked Potato
King Size Potato with your choice of toppings:
Brisket, Butter, Shredded Cheddar Cheese, Bacon Pieces, Chives, Sour Cream

Sponsored by:



Help us Rebuild





502 N Friendswod Dr, Friendswood, TX 77546



Annual Veterans Day Chili Cook-Off
Nov 16th 11 am -7 pm

100% of the Profits from the event are being donated to the American Legion Post 490 Rebuilding Fund.

Cook Your Chili at Home!

- Register prior to Nov 16
- Donation of raffle items needed
- Special Guest Bartender from Legion 490 – *Come out & see Kellie!!*
- Selling Tasters Trays to try all the chili

Family Fun!
Live Music
Raffles
Bounce House And more...

Registration / Rules

- Sign up at Cheers Pub or with Sheri @ American Legion Auxillary Unit 490 (281)229-1204 /contellasheri@gmail.com
Registration available at the 490 eBoard & General Meeting.
- Each participant will be provided an aluminum pan with lid to bring the chili to the cook-off. **Please bring approx. 1-1/2 gallons.**
- Warming trays will be provided on-site.
- Prepare chili at home and **bring to Cheers Pub ready to serve by 1 pm.**
- Chili can be any style – no rules.**
- Chili may be served with corn chips or crackers only.
- Judging will be held at 4pm
- 1st, 2nd, 3rd and People Choice Winners.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT 490

CHRISTMAS DANCE

December 21st

**Location: Post 521
2221 Preston Rd, Pasadena**

6pm – Midnight

**DJ starts @ 6pm
Houston's One & Only**

**Band starts @ 8 pm
The Smooth Stone Band**

**Tickets on Sale NOW
\$10 each**

**Tickets may be purchased from:
Post 521 Clubroom or
Any 490 Auxiliary Board Member**

*For tickets or other info contact
Jo Ann Mata @ 832-687-0783
or Vic Denney @ 832-247-7703*

Bring A Dish Finger Foods Or Desserts

Raffles Liquor Basket 50/50

Silent Auction

AMERICAN LEGION 490 FAMILY

Holiday Giving Campaign 2024

Harris County Precinct 2 Meals Program for Seniors

Harris County Precinct 2 provides free nutritious home delivered meals every week to 170 senior citizens who are homebound because of illness, disability or frailty. Many of which have difficulty with daily necessities. We have chosen them for our 2024 Holiday Giving Campaign. We will try to make 170 bags of necessities for these seniors.

Suggestions for Items Needed: (Please only provide new items)

- Cash/Check
- Dish/Bath/Hand Soap
- Shampoo/Cond
- Socks/Blankets
- Snacks
- Kleenex/Trash Bags
- Wipes/Toilet Paper
- Toothpaste/Brushes
- Dog/Cat Food/Treats

Donations needed by December 11, 2024.

To donate: Make checks payable to American Legion Auxiliary Unit 490 / Venmo available or contact Sheri Contella 281-229-1204 or Diana Aguilar 832-338-6255 to make arrangements for pick-up.



Legion Riders Post 490



Sat, January 11
Open to the Public

Legion 490 Grounds
11702 Old Galveston Rd
Houston, TX 77034

50/50 Drawing
Door Prizes

Registration 8:00 am
Cooks Meeting 9:00 am
Chili Judging 2:00 pm

Entry Fee: \$25 if paid by 1/1/25 (\$35 after early registration)
Calcutta: Side bet morning of cook-off

Name of Team: _____
Primary Contact: _____
Mailing Address: _____
cell () _____ Email: _____



Make Checks Payable to: American Legion Riders Post 490
Contact: John Evans (281) 998-7160 Email: johnevans4052@att.net



Ahoy Mateys!



Legion Post 490 is cruising!

We have scheduled a four (4) day cruise for Legionnaires, Sons of the American Legion, Post 490 Riders and Auxiliary Unit 490.

Departing Galveston, TX
2/20/25 Thursday approximately 3:30 - 5:30 pm
Port of call: Cozumel, Mexico
Returning to Galveston, TX
02/24/25 Monday approximately 9:00 am
Let's Sail!



If interested in joining the crew, please contact by email: wendellidenney@att.net
<https://www.carnival.com>



WE ARE STILL HERE!!

Post 490

JOIN US TO REUNITE!!

The American Legion Family

FUN DAY PICNIC

Saturday, May 3, 2025
10:00 am -5:00 pm

Join Us for a day of fun at the Post 490 Grounds
11702 Old Galveston Road
(across from Ellington Field – look for the plane)

Arts & Crafts Show, Vendors, Car & Bike Meet up & Swap Shop, Old Fashioned Picnic Games, Corn Hole Tournament, Food, Music, Raffles, Pet Adoptions and much more.

All proceeds go to support Legion programs benefiting veterans, veteran families and our community! A portion will also go toward rebuilding our home.

Arts & Crafts

BOOTH SPACE
Businesses Welcome
10x10 Space - \$30
Bring your own tables, chairs, tents, generators - No power available.

Proceeds from the booth rentals will be used toward our Auxiliary Girls State Program.

To Reserve a Booth Contact:
Valerie Brumfield – 409-356-3105
Diana Aguilar – 832-338-6255

CAR & BIKE MEET UP & SWAP SHOP

The American Legion Family

Saturday, May 3, 2025
10:00 am -5:00 pm

American Legion Post 490 Grounds
11702 Old Galveston Road
(across from Ellington Field)

All Vehicles, Bikes & Clubs Welcome!

No Cost to Show off your Vehicle or Bike
Just come out and join us for our Family Fun Day Picnic & Activities

Proceeds from the booth rentals will be used toward our Auxiliary Girls State Program.

SWAP / SELL ITEMS
Businesses Welcome
10x10 Space - \$30
Bring your own tables, chairs, tents, generators - No power available.

To Reserve a Booth Contact:
Valerie Brumfield – 409-356-3105
Diana Aguilar – 832-338-6255

Fundraiser Flyers

GOLD BAR RAFFLE

All proceeds will go towards the Rebuilding of




AMERICAN LEGION
South Houston Post 490

\$5 each or 5 for \$20



1 ounce

Value based on Gold Market
approximately
\$2,500 +

Drawing will be held
March 15th
5:30 pm @
AL Post 521 - Pasadena

You can now
**PURCHASE TICKETS
ONLINE**
via Zeffy by using the
QR Code!



Contact Wendell Denney @ 281-481-1179 or officemanager.legion490.com

AMERICAN LEGION TRIBUTE EDITION RIFLES

As a longtime supporter of America's military veterans, Henry Repeating Arms is proud to offer this exclusive line of American Legion Tribute Edition rifles at discounted factory-direct pricing.

Henry Repeating Arms donates a portion of every sale back to the American Legion in full support of its mission to enhance the well-being of America's veterans and their families.

Every Henry is backed by an industry-leading Lifetime Warranty, 100% Satisfaction Guarantee, and award-winning customer service to protect your investment for life.



AMERICAN LEGION
Scan the QR or visit
HenryUSA.com/american-legion
to learn more about this exclusive offer for American Legion members.



HENRY Made in America
Or Not Made at All
HENRY REPEATING ARMS
TOLL-FREE: 1-800-208-2354
WWW.HENRYUSA.COM

MADE IN AMERICA | LIFETIME WARRANTY | 100% SATISFACTION GUARANTEE | AWARD-WINNING CUSTOMER SERVICE



Quilt Raffle

Made and Donated by:
Lakeview Quilters

\$5 each or 3 for \$10

Drawing will be held on Veteran's Day



"Sunshine Garden"

All proceeds will go towards the
Rebuilding of American Legion Post 490.

For tickets text Diana @ 832-338-6255
Or Sheri @ 281-229-1204

News Letters and E-Blasts

Post 490 Weekly Newsletter and E-Blasts kept our Membership engaged throughout the year. Special Recognition to Rick Hughes and Wendell Denney.

Commander's New Letters

THE AMERICAN LEGION
South Houston Post 490

WHAT IS TEXAS BOYS STATE?

These are the future leaders of our community

Applications Now Open!

South Houston American Legion Post 490 is looking for candidates to apply for this great leadership opportunity!

American Legion Post 490 Newsletter 2025 Membership Drive 2-19- 2025 1

THE AMERICAN LEGION
South Houston Post 490

AMERICAN LEGION

Your Membership Matters

If you are not currently a member of The American Legion, sign up or renew below to take advantage of this deal!

RENEW

JOIN US

PLEASE CLICK THE BUTTON TO RENEW.

Dear Veteran,

First and foremost, I want to thank you for your service and for being a Legionnaire.

If you have renewed your membership for 2025, thank you for your continued support of our veterans, families, and our youth. Please encourage your fellow legionnaires to renew!!

BE THE ONE

AMERICAN LEGION

South Houston Post 490

Be the One to RENEW
If not now, when? If not you, who?

If you have not renewed it, your current membership expires in a couple of weeks on December 31.

We would love to have your commitment to help us continue supporting our veterans and programs. We are currently at 62 percent of our membership goal (we need be closer to 75%). We really need your support. If you can't find your membership number, please call 281-481-1179 or respond to this email and we will provide it.

American Legion Post 490 - 2025 Membership Drive 12-17- 2024

E-Blasts

LET'S MAKE POST 490 GREAT AGAIN!

2025 Membership Drive

Currently **78.33%** Of Our Goal!

[Current Report](#)

View Latest Report

Thank you for being a member!

We do offer convenient options to renew/Join:

ONLINE OPTION (click button below) We encourage everyone to use this option. This method ensures your membership is recorded on the report immediately. You will need your membership number. (If you do not know it, reply to this email and we will send it.)

Service Flags

These two flags are some of the many ways to honor our service members and the sacrifices of so many.

★

The Blue Star Service Flag

Represents hope and pride. This flag is generally displayed at the residence of a service member's family. The number of stars represents the number of service members on active duty in that family.

★

The Gold Star Service Flag

Represents sacrifice for the cause of liberty and freedom. If an individual is killed or dies while serving, the star representing that individual will have a gold star placed over the blue so that the blue forms a border.

www.NavyGoldStar.com
www.facebook.com/NavyGoldStar • 1-888-509-8759

"Anyone who has a son, daughter, grandson, grand daughter currently serving in the U S Armed Forces is entitled to a blue star indoor flag, at no cost, to hang in their window or front door. If you have more than one specify quantity for more than a one star flag.

Anyone who has had a sibling who has given the ultimate price for freedom is entitled to a gold star flag.

Please email wendelldenney@atl.net for receipt of same.

They come with all the necessary hanging equipment.
"No charge!"

Wendell Denney

The Comeback



“Our mission is dedicated to mentoring youth, sponsoring wholesome community programs, advocating for patriotism and honor, promoting robust national security, and maintaining unwavering devotion to our fellow service members and veterans. Each American Legion post operates as an independent entity, each engaging in unique methods to uphold these pillars of service at the community level. As no two communities are identical, no two posts function in exactly the same manner. This publication showcases Post 490’s exceptional record of community contributions.

*Despite facing various challenges, the Post 490 Family remains committed to constructing a **Healthy, Safe, Accessible, and Sustainable Facility** for programs that support veterans, their families, and the local community. Harris County, being the most populous county in the state, is home to 157,761 veterans. Post 490 endeavors to sustain its membership, currently numbering 1,036, which demonstrates the dedication of its members and the effectiveness of its recruitment and retention efforts. There is considerable strength in numbers, and this collective effort forms a time-honored approach to meaningful advocacy.”*

Thank you for taking the time to view our Yearbook

Rene Sanchez – Commander/Historian